

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 10, 12, 13, 19-24, and 30-34 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 3-10, 12-13, 19-24, and 30-33 stand rejected. By this Amendment, claims 3 and 9 are being cancelled without prejudice and new claim 35 has been added. The amendments made to the claims do not alter the scope of these claims, nor have these amendments been made to define over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to the claims have been made to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

In the previous Office Action, claims 1, 3-10, 12, 13, 19-24, and 30-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,384,425 ("Huber") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,235,553 ("Kawan"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Among the limitations of independent claim 1 not present in the cited reference is the contact side metallization comprises a region within the boundary line that affects an increased moment of resistance in the region of the integrated circuit. This feature is not set forth in either Huber or Kawan.

These additional regions of metallization protect an integrated circuit which is mounted on the substrate. Mechanical bending stress is absorbed by the additional regions. A further advantage is that as indicated by the dotted lines 43 a clear bending line is defined since the borders of the metallized region under the integrated circuit and the ends of the regions 32 are in line, when a chip module is exposed to mechanical bending stress, the chip module will bend along the bending lines and not in the area where the integrated circuit is mounted.

Applicant has responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: March 28, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By

Ian R. Blum

Registration No.: 42,336
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP
1177 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036-2714
(212) 277-6500
Attorney for Applicants

IRB/mgs